“Brigadier General Stephen Vincent Benet (1827 – 1895) - His Life and Times”

By Stephen C. Small, PhD

As of 1030hrs – 7 May 10
Agenda

• Military Career
• The Late 19th Military
• Homeland Defense and Insurgencies
• Arms and Armament
• Benet’s Legacy
• Postscript
Military Career

Early Life

West Point

Chief of Ordnance
USMA West Point – 1849

Military Academy West Point, N.Y.
Ordnance Department
Frankford Arsenal
Watervliet Arsenal

FORGING WORK FOR THE GUN-CARRIAGES AT THE WATERVLIET ARSENAL, WEST TROY, N. Y.
West Point Military Academy Professor
Chief of Ordnance, 
Brigadier General Stephen Vincent Benet 
June 1874 – January 1891
The Late 19th Century U.S. Military

Underpaid
Overworked
Well Equipped?
The Army
The Navy
The Marines
Three Lifesaving Services
Homeland Defense
The Battleship Raid
Insurgencies
Indian Insurgents
Little Big Horn Battle
1876
1890 – Wounded Knee
Arms and Armaments

1874 – 1891
Fig. 344.—Longitudinal section of Armstrong 110-pounder. Scale, $\frac{1}{8}$ in. to 1 ft.

Seacoast Guns
Coastal Defense
Seacoast Artillery
The “Columbiad”
The Parrot Rifled Shell Gun
Testing the Dynamite gun
Testing the Dynamite gun
USS Vesuvius
Field Artillery

Mostly Legacy Systems
# Field Artillery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Caliber (Inches)</th>
<th>Length of Tube</th>
<th>Max. Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-in. Ordnance Rifle</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>69 Inches</td>
<td>1830 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1841 6-pounder smoothbore</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>60 Inches</td>
<td>1523 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-lb. Parrot Rifle</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>74 Inches</td>
<td>1619 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-lb. smoothbore</td>
<td>4.62</td>
<td>78 Inches</td>
<td>1663 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-lb. Howitzer</td>
<td>4.62</td>
<td>53 Inches</td>
<td>1072 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1857 12-lb. Napoleon</td>
<td>4.62</td>
<td>66 Inches</td>
<td>1619 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-lb. Parrot Rifle</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>84 Inches</td>
<td>1900 yards</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Artillery Smoothbore Ammunition
The 3 Inch Hotchkiss Mountain Gun

“Rifled” Projectile
The Lifesaving Lyle Gun
Small Arms

Mostly Legacy Systems
The Service Rifle and Carbine
1866 – 1892
45-70 Caliber
U.S. Navy Model 1869
Remington Rolling-block
Ward-Burton Bolt-Action Rifle
Ward-Burton Bolt-Action Rifle
1890 – Magazine Rifle Board of Officers
Krag .30-40 –Lighter, Smaller, Faster
Model 1873 Single-Action Colt .45

- Caliber .45” 250-255 gram lead ball
- Capacity six
- Muzzle Vel 860
- Muzzle
- Sights Fixed – 25 yards
Double-Action Revolvers

.45 Colt Model - 1878

.38 Smith & Wesson Hammerless Safety - 1889
Benet’s Legacy
Benet’s Legacy
Benet’s Grandson
Questions